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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Katsumi KIMURA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **3681**

Serial No.: **10/505,218**

Examiner:

Filed: **August 20, 2004**

Confirmation No.: **5157**

For: **DIFFERENTIAL PLANETARY GEAR APPARATUS AND STARTING
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DIFFERENTIAL PLANETARY
GEAR APPARATUS**

Attorney Docket Number: **042688**

Customer Number: **38834**

REQUEST FOR REFUND

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 6, 2005

Sir:

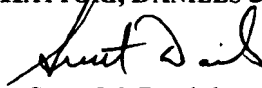
A Utility Patent Application was filed on August 20, 2004 which included a Preliminary Amendment to delete multiple dependent claims. A copy of the Preliminary Amendment with the serial number stamp, which was printed from PAIR is attached.

A deposit charge of \$290.00 (Fee Code 1616) was subsequently charged on January 24, 2005. A copy of the PTO Deposit Account for January 2005 is attached. Applicants do not recognize this charge for anything that has been filed in the referenced application. To further support that the fee was received and recorded by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, a copy of the Patent Application Determination Record as printed from PAIR is also attached. This printout verifies that the claims were amended to delete multiple dependencies.

Request for Refund
Serial No. 10/505,218
Attorney Docket No. 042688

Applicants request that the Patent Office refund the amount of \$290.00 to Deposit
Account 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Scott M. Daniels
Registration No. 32,562
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

SMD/ldc

Enclosures: Deposit Account Monthly Statement of January 2005
Preliminary Amendment with received stamp
Patent Application Fee Determination Record

Adjustment date: 05/31/2006 KWILLIAM
01/24/2005 KWILLIAM 00000003 502866 10505218
01 FC:1616 290.00 CR



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Account No.	502866
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Page	1

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10205.00	3638.00	474.00	7041.00



10/505218

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DT09 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 AUG 2004

In re the Application of: **Katsumi KIMURA et al.**

Serial No.: **Not yet assigned**
(§371 of international application No. PCT/JP03/01922)

Filed: **August 20, 2004**

For: **DIFFERENTIAL PLANETARY GEAR APPARATUS AND STARTING
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DIFFERENTIAL PLANETARY
GEAR APPARATUS**

Attorney Docket No.: **042688**
Customer Number: **38834**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 20, 2004

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the
above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this
paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Previously presented): A differential planetary gear apparatus characterized in that:
said differential planetary gear apparatus has a single-pinion-type structure in which one planetary gear is arranged in a radial direction and one or more planetary gears are arranged in a circumferential direction in a region between a sun gear and a ring gear;

a drive source, a speed-change motive source, and a driven unit are disposed at any one of an input side, an output side, and a speed-change side, respectively;

said speed-change motive source comprises an electric motor; and

when starting said driven unit, said drive source and said speed-change motive source are started at the same time, or said speed-change motive source is started after said drive source reaches a rated rotational speed.

2. (Previously presented): A differential planetary gear apparatus characterized in that:
a planetary gear is disposed in a region between a sun gear and a ring gear;
a drive source, a speed-change motive source, and a driven unit are disposed at any one of an input side, an output side, and a speed-change side, respectively;

said speed-change motive source comprises an electric motor;

supply of electric power to said speed-change motive source is stopped when said driven unit is decelerated so that said speed-change motive source generates electric power; and

when starting said driven unit, said drive source and said speed-change motive source are started at the same time, or said speed-change motive source is started after said drive source reaches a rated rotational speed.

3. (Original): A differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the electric power generated by said speed-change motive source is supplied to a resistance means.

4. (Original): A differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the electric power generated by said speed-change motive source is returned to a power source of said speed-change motive source.

5. (Original): A differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the electric power generated by said speed-change motive source is supplied to a storage means.

6. (Original): A starting apparatus for a differential planetary gear apparatus having a sun gear, a ring gear, and one or more planetary gears and having a structure in which a drive source, a speed-change motive source, and a driven unit are disposed at any one of an input side, an output side, and a speed-change side, respectively, said starting apparatus characterized in that:

said drive source is energized after a rotational speed of said drive source is increased to nearly a rated rotational speed by a starting means;

said starting means comprises said speed-change motive source, a speed-increasing means provided at an output side of said speed-change motive source, and a rotation transmitting assembly for transmitting rotation from an output side of said speed-increasing means to said drive source; and

said rotation transmitting assembly serves as gears and rotating shafts of said differential planetary gear apparatus.

7. (Original): A starting apparatus for a differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a stop means is provided on a rotating shaft connected to said ring gear, and said stop means is operated so as to lock said ring gear while the rotational speed of said drive source is increased by said starting means.

✓ 8. (Currently amended): A starting apparatus for a differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 6 [[or 7]], wherein said speed-increasing means comprises a mechanical transmission.

✓ 9. (Currently amended): A starting apparatus for a differential planetary gear apparatus according to claim 6 [[or 7]], wherein said speed-increasing means comprises an inverter motor and an inverter.

✓ 10. (Currently amended): A starting apparatus for a differential planetary gear apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~ claim 6, wherein:

said differential planetary gear apparatus has a single-pinion-type structure in which one planetary gear is arranged in a radial direction and one or more planetary gears are arranged in a circumferential direction in a region between said sun gear and said ring gear; and

said speed-change motive source comprises an electric motor.

11. (Original): A starting method for a differential planetary gear apparatus having a sun gear, a ring gear, and one or more planetary gears and having a structure in which a drive source,

Preliminary Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 042688

a speed-change motive source, and a driven unit are disposed at any one of an input side, an output side, and a speed-change side, respectively, said starting method characterized by:

operating a brake so as to lock said ring gear when starting said drive source;

starting an inverter and an inverter motor so as to rotate said drive source at a predetermined rotational speed;

energizing said drive source to start said drive source at the predetermined rotational speed;

and

operating said drive source in a normal operation state.

Preliminary Amendment
Attorney Docket No. 042688

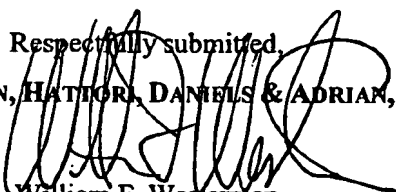
REMARKS

The above amendment to the claims has been made to incorporate the changes made under PCT Article 34, to remove the multiple dependency of the claims and to place the application in better condition for examination. An English translation of the annexes of the Amendment under PCT Article 34 is enclosed.

In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP


William F. Westerman
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 29,988

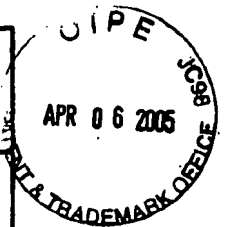
WFW/yap
1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1100

PATENT APPLICATION FEE DETERMINATION RECORD
Effective October 1, 2003

Application or Docking Number

10/505218

APR 06 2005



CLAIMS AS FILED - PART I

(Column 1)

(Column 2)

TOTAL CLAIMS	11	
FOR	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA
TOTAL CHARGEABLE CLAIMS	13 minus 20 =	
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4 minus 3 =	1
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENT	4	<input type="checkbox"/>

* If the difference in column 1 is less than zero, enter "0" in column 2

SMALL ENTITY TYPE ☐ OR

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

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BASIC FEE	385.00
XS 9=	
X43=	
+145=	
TOTAL	

RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE	950
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CLAIMS AS AMENDED - PART II

(Column 1)

(Column 2)

(Column 3)

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FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>				

SMALL ENTITY OR

OTHER THAN SMALL ENTITY

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ADDIT. FEE	

RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
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ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT B	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
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FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM <input type="checkbox"/>				

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RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
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TOTAL	
ADDIT. FEE	

AMENDMENT C	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
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RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
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TOTAL	
ADDIT. FEE	

- * If the entry in column 1 is less than the entry in column 2, write "0" in column 3.
- * If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20."
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- * The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in column 1.